

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01

SCCT-02 /076 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4205

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 6489

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM (LAMAS, ALEXANDRA, AS, CI)

SUBJ: ALEXANDRA LAMAS - ALLEGATION OF TORTURE

REF: STATE 216034

UP ARTICLE DATELINED LIMA REVEALS MISS LAMAS WAS DEPORTED
FROM CHILE AND IS NOW IN LIMA. TEXT OF ARTICLE FOLLOWS:

UNITED PRESS: LIMA, WEDNESDAY

ALEXANDRA LAMAS DAUGHTER OF THE ARGENTINE-AMERICAN FILM
ACTOR FERNANDO LAMAS, DENIED YESTERDAY SHE WAS DEPORTED FROM
CHILE BECAUSE SHE WAS CARRYING LETTERS TO THE OPPONENTS OF
CHILE'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

SHE ALSO SAID SHE FELT NO ANGER AGAINST THE CHILEAN
AUTHORITIES, AND ADDED: "I FEEL SORRY FOR THEM."
THE 27-YEAR-OLD MISS LAMAS, WHO ARRIVED IN LIMA, PERU, ON
MONDAY NIGHT, SAID SHE WAS ARRESTED IN SANTIAGO, CHILE,
13 DAYS AFTER HER ARRIVAL. DURING 20 DAYS IN CAPTIVITY
SHE NEVER WAS MISTREATED.

SHE TOLD REPORTERS SHE HAD TRAVELLED TO CHILE AS PART OF
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HER JOB AS AN ADMINISTRATOR IN THE LAN-CHILE AIRLINES OFFICE

IN SYDNEY, WHERE SHE WORKED FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS
AND HAD BECOME A NATURALISED AUSTRALIAN.
"THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES MADE A MISTAKE IN MY CASE AND
NOW THEY ARE TRYING TO JUSTIFY THEMSELVES IN THE BEST
WAY POSSIBLE," SHE SAID.

"I'M HAPPY TO BE OUT OF CHILE."

SHE SAID SHE MIGHT STAY IN LIMA UNTIL THURSDAY. "IT
ALL DEPENDS ON THE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH THE AUSTRALIAN
EMBASSY HAS MADE."

ONE LETTER

MISS LAMAS SAID THE CHILEAN POLICE CONFISCATED ONLY ONE
LETTER FROM HER, AND NOT 22, AS THE CHILEAN AMBASSADOR
TO AUSTRALIA, MR. D. MCINTYRE, HAD CLAIMED. THE
AMBASSADOR ALSO ACCUSED HER OF ACTING AS A COURIER FOR
LEFT-WING GROUPS.

ASKED IF SHE WAS A LEFTIST, SHE REPLIED: "I WOULD SAY I
AM A LIBERAL."

BEFORE HER LATEST TRIP SHE HAD VISITED CHILE TWICE, ONCE
10 YEARS AGO AND AGAIN IN 1971.

MISS LAMAS SAID SHE DID NOT KNOW WHERE HER FATHER WAS
NOW BUT SHE HAD ALREADY COMMUNICATED WITH HER MOTHER.
UNQUOTE

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS INFORMED EMOFF THAT IT
APPEARED THAT MISS LAMAS HAD BEEN TREATED RELATIVELY WELL
BY CHILEANS, THAT SHE APPARENTLY WAS RELATIVELY INNOCENT
OF CHARGES LEVIED AGAINST HER, AND THAT SHE WILL BE
RETURNING TO AUSTRALIA VIA A QUANTAS FLIGHT FROM MEXICO
WITHIN A COUPLE OF DAYS. FOREIGN AFFAIRS ALSO ADVISED
THAT LAN-CHILE AIRLINES WILL BE PAYING ALL OR PART
OF HER RETURN TICKET TO AUSTRALIA.
GREEN

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